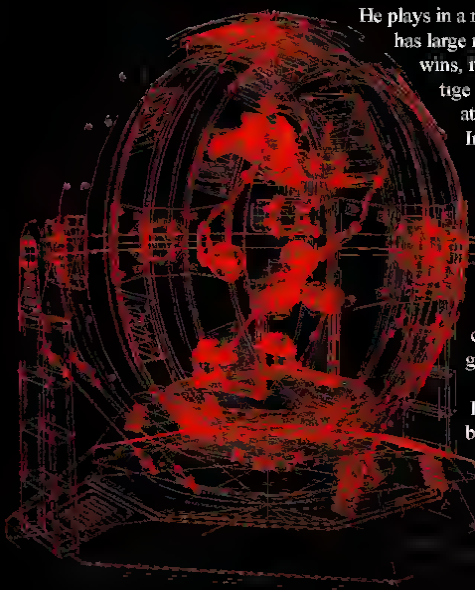
INTRODUCTION

Nero's first MBZ-fight is in full swing as it becomes obvious to his opponent that Nero is a beginner. But Nero has a secret weapon: the mysterious voice of Zero One, which helps him against his more experienced foe.

But no sooner has Nero defeated his first opponent that a new adventure awaits him.

Hijikata is a former professional boxer who is constantly in need of money. By coincidence he becomes involved with an MBZ-group battle. The first prize in this contest is ten million yen. Hijikata is certain that he could win the prize if it were not for two problems: he's never played MBZ before, and every group in the contest must have seven members. Hijikata decides to defeat other players and then recruit them into his team.



He plays in a run-down arcade that also has large money problems. If the team wins, it would bring enough prestige to the arcade that it could attract customers once again. In his first game he defeats another entire team thanks to his experience as a prize-fighter. Unfortunately, none of them, other than Sugara, keeps their word. But Sugara brings Nero with, when it becomes clear what kind of arcade the game is sitting in.

Hijikata continues to seek to build a team of seven players. But his first victory leaves him overconfident and he takes on an opponent that is a little too strong for him.

_0131_
9 1
*WAAMP **VUOOO

!?
* WAASH

* CLACK
TYPE ZERO ONE

No I wasn't... you idiot...
You were staring at me...
You son of a bitch...
...!
You wanna fight? Heh?

What is that?
Tsk...

ダダダ
ドサッ

...attack...?
Did I... somehow...

He's running away!
What? What?

What?
What?
Just go and fight!
What mode?
Actually, it's better if you win without using this mode.
I didn't expect that.
A transformer.
That was close.
Tsk.

He was only pretending to be a beginner
I agree.
A weakling wouldn't make such an avatar
I bet he's strong.
...when they use a new disk. Even though they've obtained a high level.
Some people like to start at zero...
But he's on a low level.
He really is a beginner. He just found that disk somewhere.
That's not true.

FUM
01
HA.

Above the thumb, at the end of the grip.
Which one?
I must push a button.
Okay, okay.
Ah... Ah...
Above the thumb.
CLICK CLICK
This one!

Oh!
ZE
ビビビ

Fire it, you idiot. What else?
What should I do with it?
Oh...
Oh...
-01-

Like so?
Ah!

SCREAM

FLASH
What?
He's coming. Get under cover.
Huff!
What? What?
Oh no! Your jump was too strong. We're in transformer mode.
BOOM
SHOOT
SHOOT
SHOOT

SBRN
Hah hah hah hah hah!
Maybe he really is a beginner?
...

ZERO ONE
HIROYA OKU works.
2
PLANET NEXT manga

Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!
Ha, ha, ha! Idiot!
...of boldly calling himself "01"!
That he isn't ashamed...
What a noob.
What a joke. Pure show-off.
[X014]
Beginner
Ha, ha, ha! It was great!
But that transformation... ...was really impressive.
We should take a look.
Yeah, definitely.
We've gotta see him... ...when the players come out.

SBAM

Even a genius would have problems beating an experienced player their first time.
Nobody plays well the first time they play.
... probably totally confused from all the details in the game, the movements and the attacks.
That boy is also...
A person must play such a game over and over. Every time you get better.
...tactics... tactics...?
And the most important is...
To learn stuff like that there are game magazines. Certainly, the avatar is custom. That's something you don't find in game mags.

Of course. tactics...
For months that boy...
...has been watching the MBZ screen here at the game center.
He could have learned...
... battle-tactics on his own.
Hmm... Perhaps...
No.
A kid can't do that
No.

...how to meta-morph?
How did he find out...
Having said that...
?!
The machine isn't broken, is it?
Of course not, you idiot!
VEEE

ドドドドド
ドドドドド
Arrgh!
VR

Bad style.
Oh-oh. That was a bad attack.
It seems he knows his fundamentals. He learned it through watching.
Theoretically a good one...
Especially that fellow. His technique is based on footwork. The disadvantage would be greater.
If the legs are broken in this game a player has a major handicap, since their movements are slowed.

But precisely because of that...
...his legs are stronger.
Even a good player would not be able to hit the legs.
With that spacing...
...the best he can hope for is a lucky shot

I tried such an attack against that player recently.
Hopefully he won't copy my style of fighting.

Quit with the jumping. You're making yourself a target.
Haa!
I know!
ENN ENN

Haa!
Haa!
Slowly I'm digging the arc out...
...with all...
...the shooting.

What's with all these stupid attacks?!
That bum!
FFNN FFNNN
ドゴ

That...
...will hurt...

Good counterattack.
OHH
Can a beginner really do that?
?
FLUKE
What is that?

What is that...?
Heh, heh heh!
I came over here to see...
...what this mob is so quietly watching.
[X015]
The Direction

And that's it? Heh, heh, heh... idiocy!
They're staring at this game as if it were important.

They look like adults.
But they behave like kids.
In the end, that battle isn't real.
Does it do anything for you if you're good at this game?

Let's go outside.
Then I'll show you "real".

Does anybody else want to help him?
You want to?
PSH!
STAFF ONLY
Haa... that was kinda scary
What was that supposed to be...?

Oh... not much happened in the meantime.
BOOM
BOOM

WT

Listen up, if you always use the same attack...

What?
...and your opponent comes too close, you're finished.

If you're attacked one more time...
...you'll die.
What? What?
Why? Was I hit too often?
You're transformed.
What? Transformed?
Don't you see that on your hands?
What?
Oh. What is that?
Oh, come on...

Come on, you're stuck in a fight!
...look like right now?
What do I...
... get him...
Now I'll...
...that swaggering beginner
Argh!
BOOM

... you didn't die. That was a surprise.
What?
When he attacked you...
SWOOM
The normal-looking type?
Before the transformation the avatar was quite weak.
... by now he should have noticed that you're just a beginner.
DASH
The transformation made him careful for a while. But...
I think that he's coming.
That's why you couldn't hit his legs with the energy beams. You understand?
Haa!
Haa!

He, he, he I appreciate your donation
PING
So...
Should I treat myself to a steak?

Somehow this reminds of my time as a beginner...

It seemed so real.
...it was amazing
The first time I played MBZ ..
And as I let loose the energy beams...
My first leap was unreal.
I was so happy in my first fight
Since then I've become obsessed with MBZ.

I increased my level step by step...
Until I came across this guy.
When I fight against such a slow coach...
... it bothers me the rest of the day.
I was so pissed off. I decided ta keep an challenging him until I won.
Although he s younger than me...
I never had a girlfriend.
I hate guys like him

Ha, ha, ha! Not a chance.
Oh-oh. 01 is finished.
That's... impossible but...

He's coming! I believe in you!
OKAY!!

I'LL SAY IT ONCE AGAIN. ONE MORE ATTACK AND YOU'RE DEAD.
ONLY ONE ATTACK ...
YES I KNOW.
[X016] Strategy
SHUUU
SHUUU

NO TIME FOR SUCH A THING!!
ZERO ONE! TELL ME A DEADLY ATTACK!!

SHUU
DUM
DUM
DUM
DUM
ONE ...
TWO ...
THREE... FOUR... FIVE...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?
DUM
DUM
DUM
DUM
HEY, HE'S ALMOST HERE!!

COME ON WHAT?
... COME ON ...!
NOW...
ZEKU

AAH...

ORRAAH!!
SBAM

BAM
BAM
ONE SINGLE HIT...
... WILL FINISH ME.
HE'LL LOSE BUT ...
HE'S MOVING MUCH BETTER...
... THAN I DID IN MY FIRST GAME
IF HE KEEPS PLAYING THAT GAME...
... HE'LL GET VERY VERY GOOD AT IT!!

HERE!!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO ONLY GUARD THEN TURN ON "HOLD"!!
LEARN THE BASICS.
01

FOUR...
FIVE...

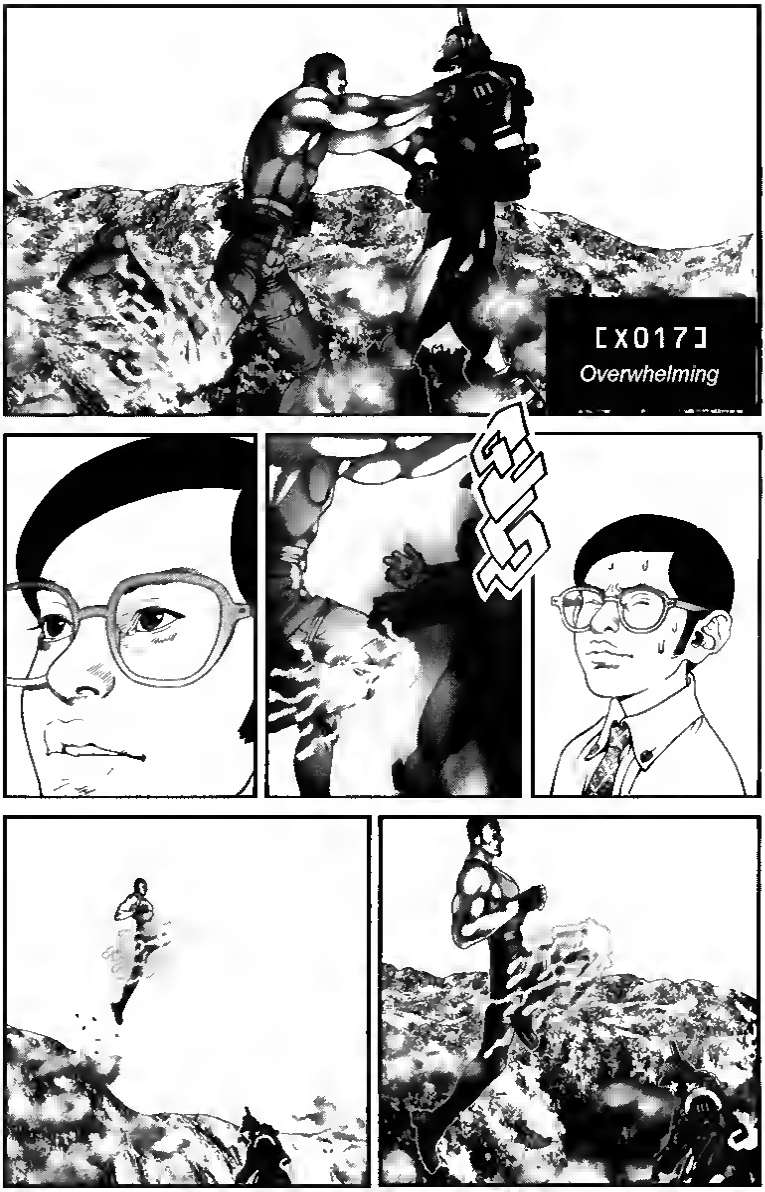
WHAT...
WHAT...

ドン
ドン

WHAM
HIT HIM!!

BOOM

I'M STUCK, SHIT!
SHIT! SHIT!
IT LOOKS LIKE ZERO ONE HAS HAD A LOT OF LUCK.
WHY IS ZERO ONE FALLING DOWN?
OOH
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON?

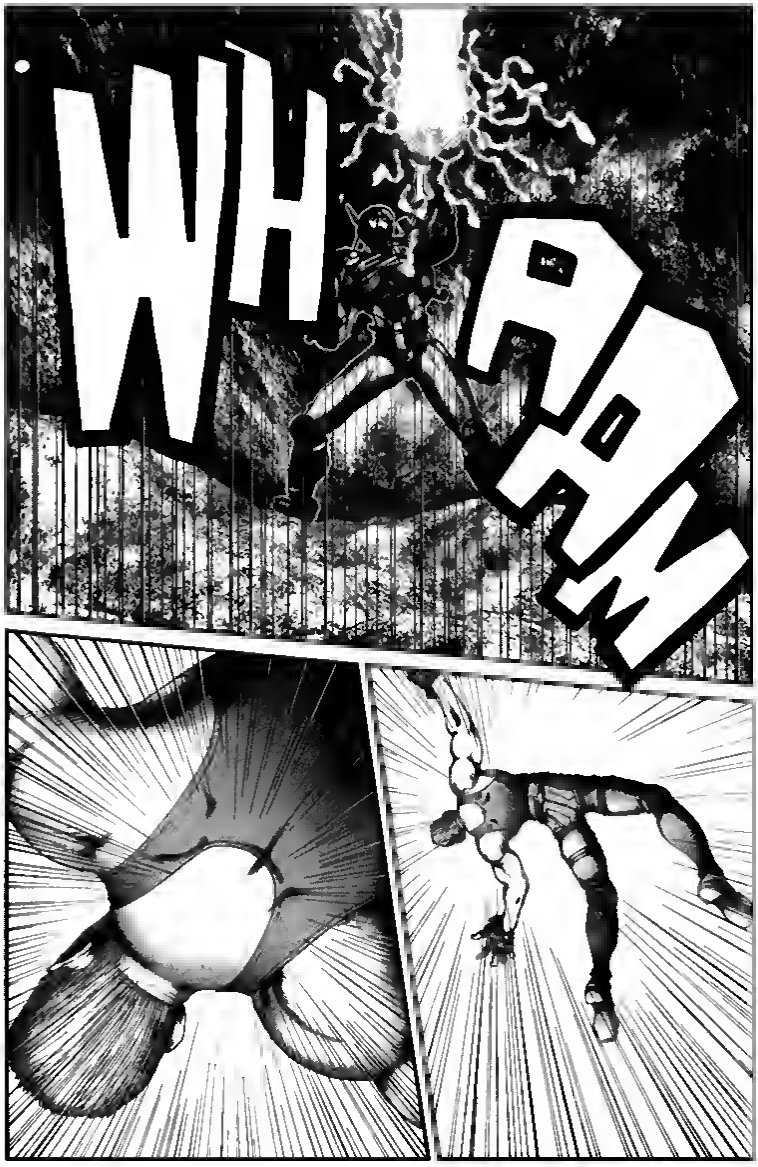

[X017]
Overwhelming
ぐぐぐ

WHAM
OHH
HEY!
WHY IS ZERO ONE FALLING DOWN?
OHH
OF COURSE! HE PLANNED IT ALL....
... FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.

BUT NO ..
HE COVERED THE ENTIRE GROUND WITH HOLES.
I THOUGHT HE WOULD ONLY FIRE THE LASER BEAMS AT THE ENEMY'S LEGS. WITH THE ENEMY'S ATTACKING PATTERN IT WOULD BE NATURAL TO DO SO.
AFTER THE ATTACK HE CAN'T MOVE FOR A MOMENT.
PULLS THE KNEE BACK AND JUMPS...
HE PUTS HIS HANDS ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE VICTIM...
THE ATTACKING PATTERN OF HIS ENEMY IS....
... AND IS ABLE TO COVER THE OTHER WITH LASER BEAMS.
ON THIS SIDE HE EVADES THE ATTACK...
JUST BEFORE THE ATTACK HE BACKS OFF INTO THE HOLE.
SO HE USES HIS FAVORITE ATTACK.
THE OTHER THINKS OF HIM AS A BEGINNER.
BACK OFF AND GUARD.
AS SOON AS THE ENEMY ATTACKS ...
KEEP YOUR POSITION IN FRONT OF A HOLE.

ゴゴゴゴ

SHIT!!
SHIT!!
ONCE AGAIN!!


WHAM

!!
ARGH!!
BAM

SHUUU
AAAH!!
BRRR
BRR
!!

BAM
BAM
BAM
GAHR!!
BAM

OOOH!!
MAN!!
DOES THAT MEAN YOSUKE IS GOING TO LOSE?
OH NO ...

YOU'VE PROVEN THAT I CAN COUNT ON YOU!!
YOU ARE UNBELIEV-ABLE!!!
AAAHHH!! IT'S SO HIGH!!
I'M FALLING! I'M FALLING!
SHUUU
THUMP

GOOD JOB MY BODY.
I HAVE...
..WON?

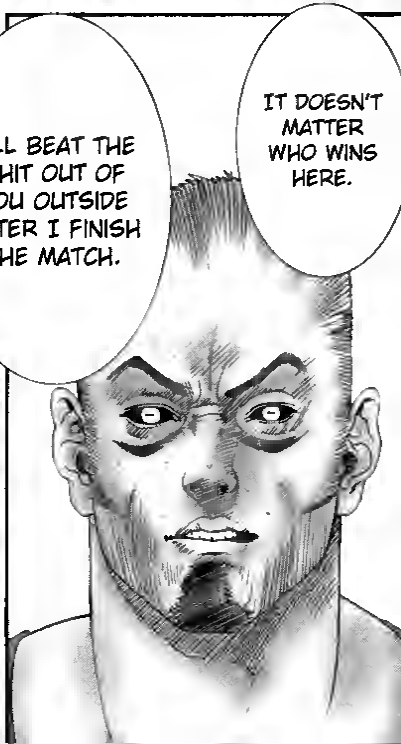
NO...
WHAT?

THUMP

I'M REALLY PISSED OFF.
NOW I'M ANGRY.

YES...
WATCH OUT...!

!!

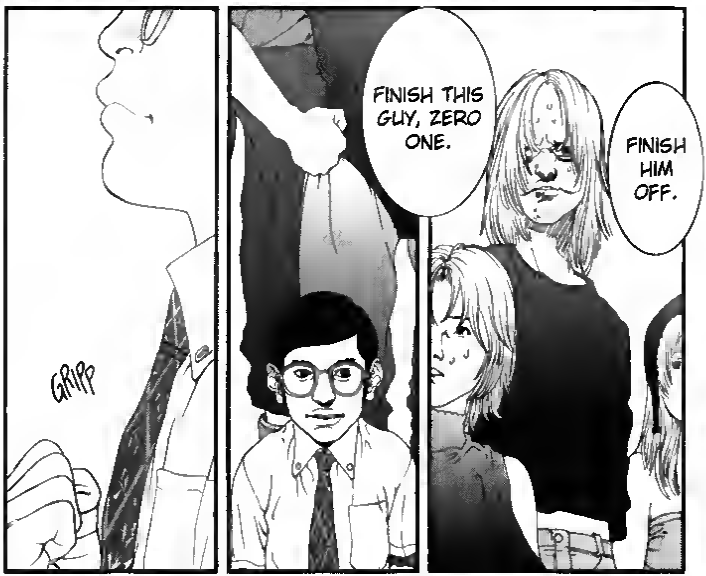

I'LL BEAT THE SHIT OUT OF YOU OUTSIDE AFTER I FINISH THE MATCH.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO WINS HERE.

HEY, YOU, IN THE ZERO ONE - AVATAR.
THEN I'M GOING TO BEAT THE SHIT OUT OF YOU OUTSIDE.
I'M FINISHING THE GAME.

WHAT'S THIS IDIOT TALKING ABOUT?
[X018]
Withdrawal

AAHRR!!
DO YOU HEAR ME!!

WHAT IS HE SAYING?
WHAT AN ASS-HOLE...
SUCH A PERSON HAS NO RIGHT TO PLAY THE GAME.
BBB
BBB


FINISH HIM OFF.
FINISH THIS GUY, ZERO ONE.
GRIPP

TUM TU TUMM TUM
TUM TUM TUM
TUM
HE'S NOT GETTING SMARTER AT ALL.
HE WANTS TO MAKE THE SAME ATTACK AGAIN.
HE...
DO YOU HEAR ME?
WATCH HIM AND EVADE IT.
RRR

COME ON!!
ARE YOU SCARED!! NO!!
LISTEN...
... THE NEXT ATTACK WILL FINISH BOTH OF YOU!!

DON'T MOVE!!!
ヤツヤツ
"DON'T MOVE". SOUNDS IDIOTIC. HA HA....
MORON.
HE SHOULD DEFINITELY BE WIPED OUT.

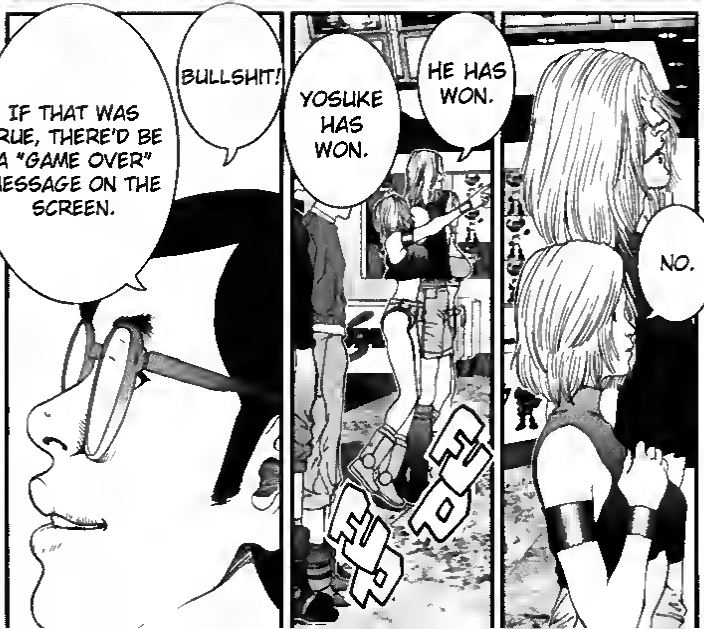
BOOM

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?!
MOVE!!

ポポポポポポ
HE'S GOING TO HIT WITH IT!!
JUMP TO THE SIDE!!

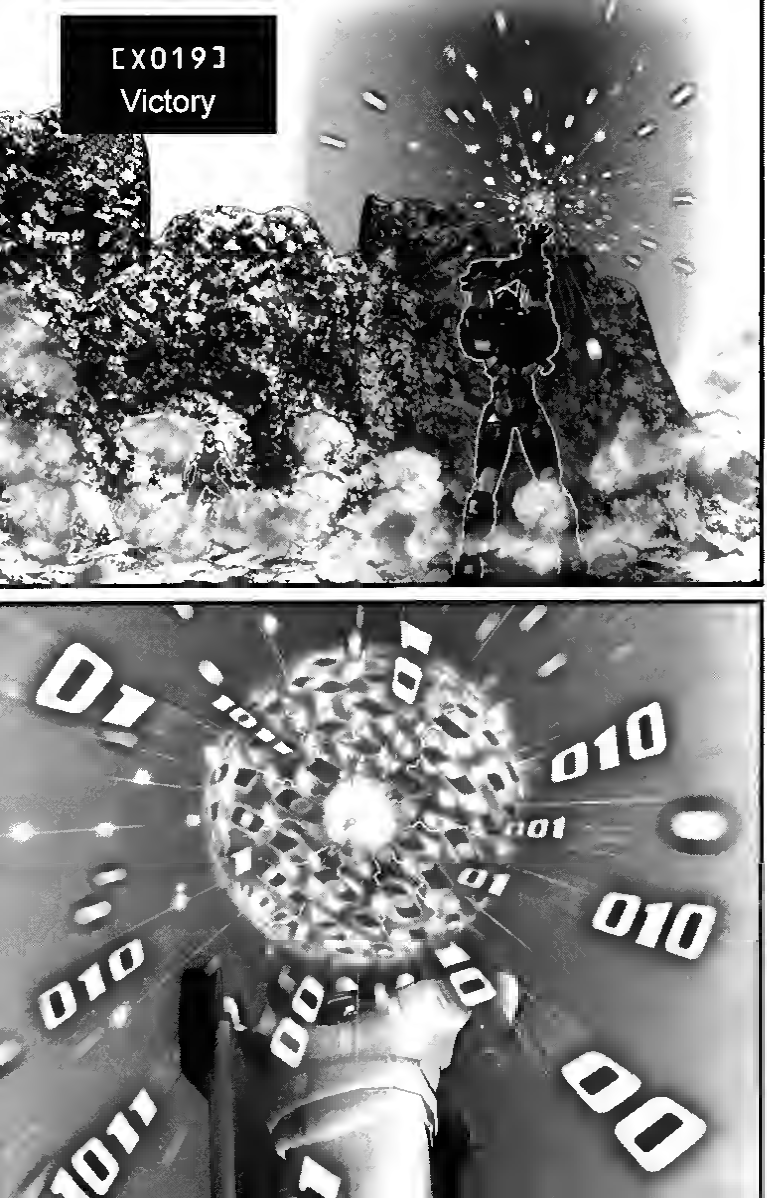
TAKE THIS!!
SHHH
SHAAA
JUMP!!
MOVE!!! PLEASE!!

SORAA!


IF THAT WAS TRUE, THERE'D BE A "GAME OVER" MESSAGE ON THE SCREEN.
BULLSHIT!
YOSUKE HAS WON.
HE HAS WON.
NO.
ドドド

HEY!! STAND UP! HURRY!!
THAT'S ENOUGH. I'M GOING TO TAKE OVER NOW.
DO WHAT-EVER I TELL YOU WITHOUT THINKING!!

?!
DID I MISS?


[X0193]
Victory

THROW IT! FAST!
AND WE'LL WIN.

DO YOU WANT TO LOSE AGAINST HIM!!
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT!!
THROW IT!!
RATTLE
BATTLE
?
YOU SHOULD GIVE IT UP.
WHY ARE YOU PLAYING THIS GAME?

YES.
WHAT NOW?
THE ASSHOLE IS SCARED.
YES, OF COURSE. HA HA HA
I'M GONNA WIN.
ッッッッ

ドドド

SHM
COME ON!!
HA!
GAH!
WHAP

AARRHH...
GAH...
AAAAH!!

ARR
ARR!

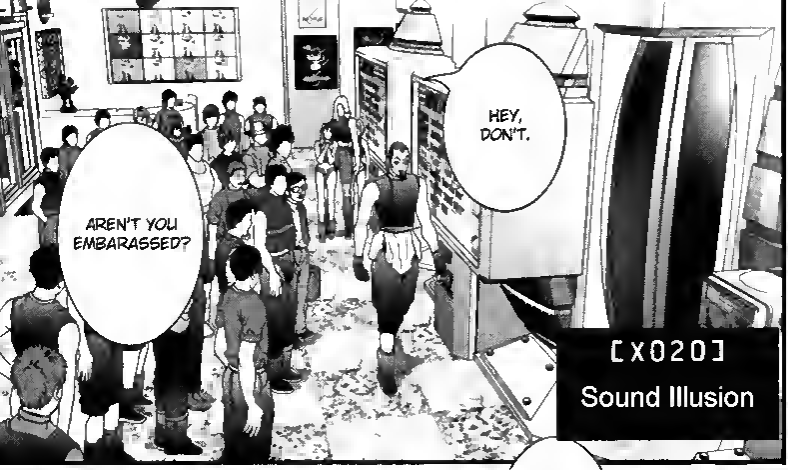
ZERO-ONE-MAN
YEAAAAA!!
THAT'S WHAT HE DESERVES!
AWE-SOME!

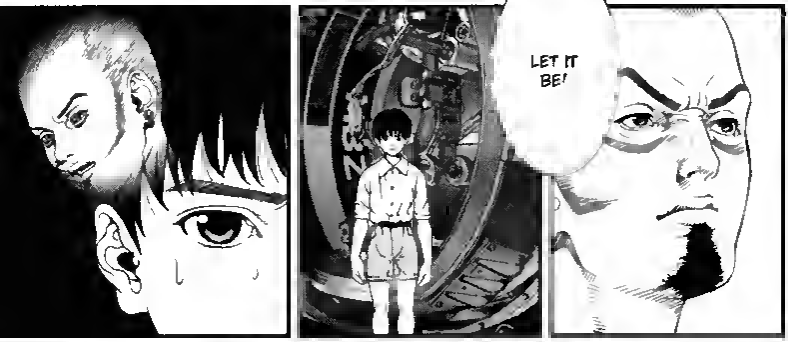
WHY IS THIS GUY CRYING?
EH....
BUHU HUHU HUHU
...

IT'S QUITE RARE THAT SOMEONE CAN BEAT A C-LEVEL THEIR FIRST TIME PLAYING.
YOU'RE GIFTED.
WELL DONE.
HEY, YOU'RE STILL SCARED WHEN YOU GET OUT...
ピッ
SEE YOU NEXT TIME.

DO NOT SHOW FEAR.
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE SCARED. I GUARANTEE IT.
BYE TILL THEN!!
WE HAVE TO PLAY TO-GETHER AGAIN!!
SHU
KA-CHI-NN-N
BZ

YUSUKE
...
RYU
RYU

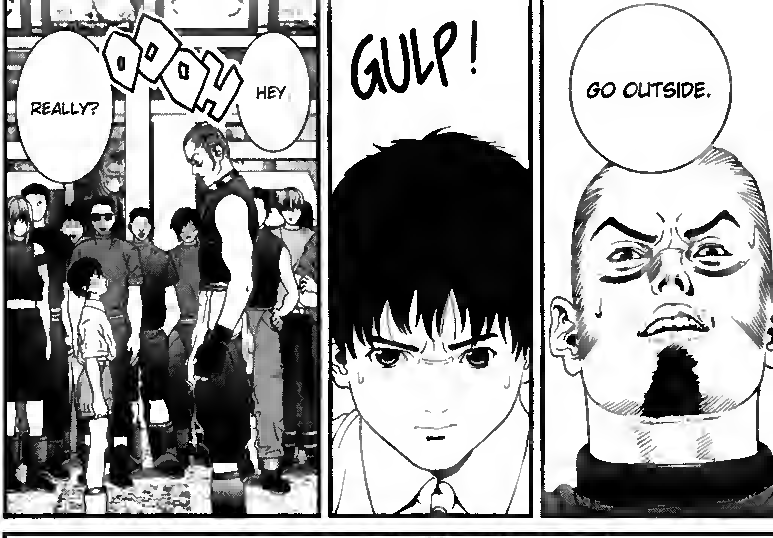

HEY, DON'T.
AREN'T YOU EMBARASSED?
[X020]
Sound Illusion


LET IT BE!

タッ

"GENIUS"
"SPOON"
"UNO TAN"

UAHAHAHAH
PTUI
AHAHA HAHAH
COME ON!
A REAL FIGHT AGAINST A KID.


REALLY?
OOH
HEY
GULP!
GO OUTSIDE.

YOU'RE GOING TO COME OUT AS WELL!!
SHUT UP!

GET OUTSIDE!
ANF!
ANF!

LET IT BE. THIS IS DISGRACEFUL

...DO YOU WANT...?
WHAT...
ROAR
...FINISH YOU OFF...
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
I AM SAYING IT IS DIS-GRACEFUL

GRIP

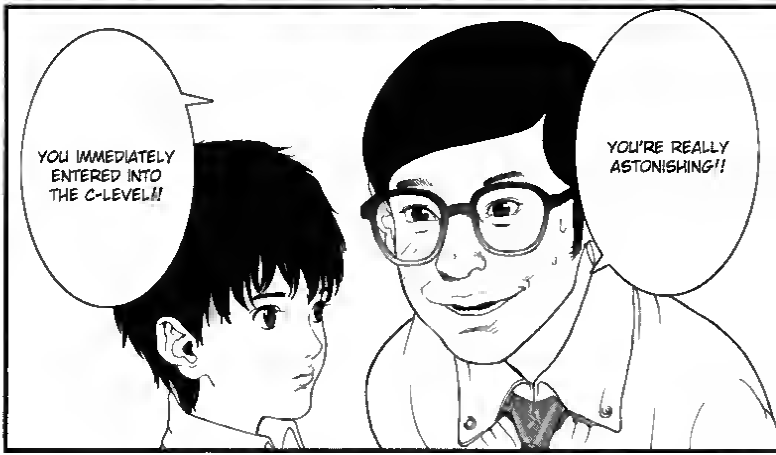
WONDER IF I CAN BREAK IT

...
LET IT GO.
GOT IT.

?!
UMM .... THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR
AAAHAHAHA

WHAT?!
NEXT TIME YOU CAN FIGHT AGAINST ME

ぐいっ
COME WITH ME.
DON'T BOTHER WITH THIS GUY.
!!
WHAT?!


YOU IMMEDIATELY ENTERED INTO THE C-LEVEL!!
YOU'RE REALLY ASTONISHING!!

OH!
TO SEE ZERO ONE
LOOK!! ALL OF THEM ARE COMING.

THE FIRST TIME?
REALLY?
OOH

WE HAVE TO GO.

WHAT?
ABOUT THE TRANSFORMATION AND ATTACK?
HOW DID YOU FIND OUT
TELL ME ..
THE VOICE... WAS THERE ALL THE TIME.
VOICE? ?
THE VOICE WHO EXPLAINED IT ALL TO ME
THAT WAS ...
HAA ..
OKAY.
HMMM ..

[X021]
Seven Player

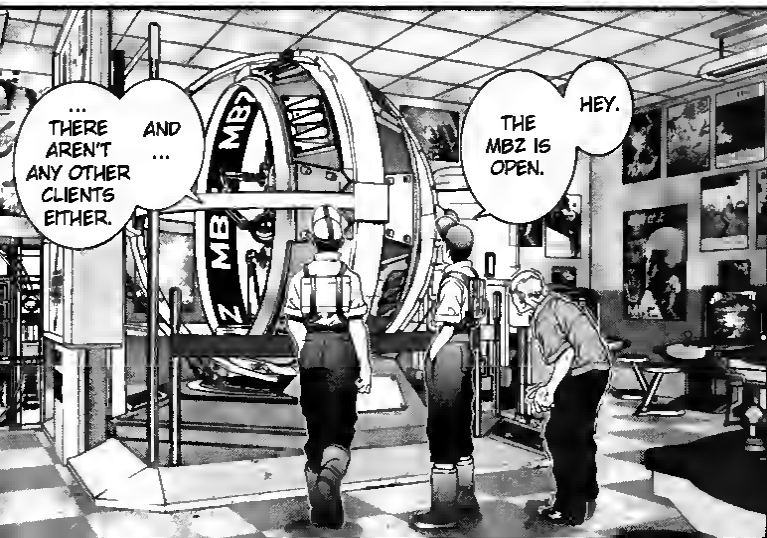
THE FIRST PRIZE WILL BE 10 BILLION YEN.
THE FIRST MATCH OF THE ZETA TEAM BATTLE GP WILL BE ON 10TH OF NOVEMBER.
10 BILLION!
OH WOW.
OH MY GOD 10 BILLION!
SEVEN PLAYERS PER TEAM. PLEASE HAND IN THE APPLICATION BEFORE 10TH OF SEPTEMBER.
FOR THIS SHOP TO DO WELL IT MUST BE INTERESTING FOR GOOD MBZ PLAYERS.
ACTUALLY THEY'RE ALL CRAZY FOR MBZ.
ONE MORE THING. THE TEAM BATTLE MATCH IS SPONSORED BY ZETA.
IF A TEAM OF OUR CLIENTS IS GOING TO WIN...
ANYWAYS WE DON'T HAVE ANY CLIENTS.

ASK SOMEONE ELSE.
I'M D-LEVEL
HUH?
!!
TAP TAP
WHAT?
FOR FREE? REALLY?
DON'T BELIEVE THAT
HELLO AT-CHAN. HOW ARE YOU?
AND MOM?
OH.
WHAT'S UP, AT-CHAN?

Dear Father,
I am going to my lover. I'll let you manage my game center. Thanks for taking care of Atsushi.
Farewell.
BOOM
SHUUM

HERE?
REALLY FOR FREE, OLD MAN?

HUH.
I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS A GAME CENTER DOWN HERE.

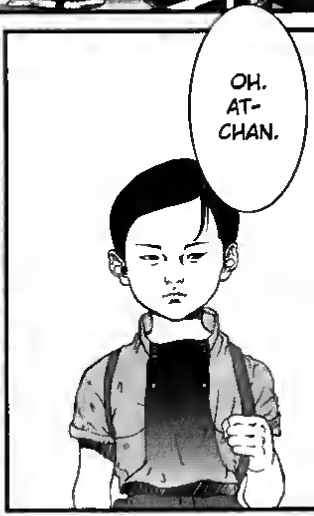

HEY.
THE MBZ IS OPEN.
AND ...
... THERE AREN'T ANY OTHER CLIENTS EITHER.
MBZ

YOU CAN PLAY WITH EVERYONE EVERY-WHERE.
IT HAS AN ONLINE CONNEC-TION.
...
YOU CAN PLAY IT.
I KNOW THAT YOU WANT TO GO SO GO...!
AH! AH...

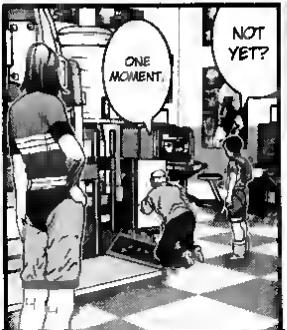
SOME-
THING
TO
EAT?

!
ソハグロ

I WANT TO PLAY MBZ NOW.


OH. AT-CHAN.

LET ME HAVE A LOOK ....!


ONE MOMENT.
NOT YET?

OF COURSE.

I DON'T LIKE THAT STUFF.
TODAY THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO WANTED TO COLLECT THE DEBTS.
I ... I AM VERY SORRY.
HA HA HA HA HA!
WUU WUU
DO YOU REALLY WANT THAT ....
... GATHER 7 PLAYERS TO PLAY TOGETHER?
OH...
YES...
I AM GOING ...
... FOR A MOMENT GOOD LUCK
!?
BA D DAM

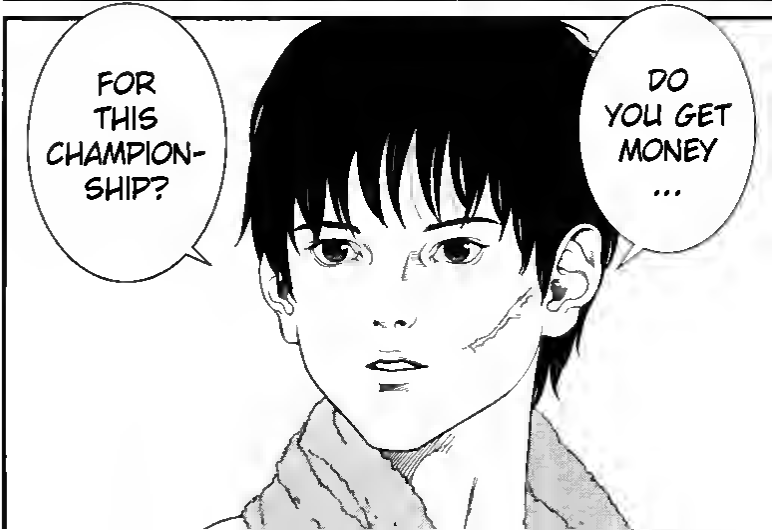
ドドド

PHEW!
타닥 타닥
YES ...?
UM... WELL..

ONE MOMENT ..!
NO INTEREST.
GAME CHAMPION-SHIP?
BIIP

X022
Boxing

身を滅ぼす
?!
I GOT A QUES-TION.


FOR THIS CHAMPION-SHIP?
DO YOU GET MONEY ...

I'M DOING IT!!
OKAY !!
YES !!
YOU GET 10 BILLION ...
... TO PLAY A GAME.
THAT'S A FAST WAY TO EARN MONEY
YOU THINK THAT'S EASY, DON'T YOU?
HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED MBZ?
I NEVER PLAY GAMES.
IT'S THIS ONE?
SEEMS TO BE EASY.
HMPH... I BET THIS ONE'S NOT GOING TO MAKE IT.

YOU HAVE NO CLUE HOW HARD IT CAN BE.
YOU DON'T KNOW THE GAME.
SAY THAT AGAIN.
KNIFE
RING
THEN ...
...I'M GOING TO TRY IT OUT NOW.
LET ME PLAY.

ROGER
OH SHE'S NOT HUMAN.
HEY BABY, YOU LOOK AWESOME.
WOW!
THAT ...
OOH!
OH!
ARE YOU STUPID ?
WHAT ?
A D-LEVEL IN THE JOY PALACE IN FRONT OF THE NEW KOSHI-GAYA STATION PLEASE.
I'LL BELIEVE YOU.
IF YOU WIN AGAINST AN F-LEVEL ...

AAA-
RR-
GG!
OOPS!
OOPS!
OH!
OH!
OOHH!

PRESS THE B-BUTTON FOR SPEAKING
... YOUR FIRST TIME... RIGHT?
THIS IS ...
THANKS ...
OH YES ...
IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN PRACTICE A BIT.
WHAT?
HEY, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY THAT ONE OUT.
?
GRRR
IS THIS RIGHT?
MOVE YOUR BODY LIKE THIS ...

CRACKLE
AAAGH!!
GRR!
SBAM

NN...
GH...
THIS ATTACK I'VE DONE FOR THE FIRST TIME.
WOOT! AWESOME!
SHU
AARRR!!
YOU ASS-HOLE!!
I'M GOING TO BEAT THE SHIT OUTTA YOU!
IDIOT. BEGINNERS SHOULDN'T CHALLENGE D-LEVELS.
THAT'S JUST EMBARRASSING.
DASH
BOW

HAA!
HAA!
...
I'M BETTER THAN THIS GUY
DAMN IT!!
I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU RUN
JUMP
JUMP
I'LL GET YOU !!
STAY HERE, BASTARD !!

ぐっ
uAAAAAH!!

OH...
!?

I'M MOVING LIKE A LEAD DUCK BUT....
... YOUR MOVE-MENT IS FORE-SEEABLE.
SOK
SBAM
URRAAH!!

DO YOU HAVE ANY EXPERI-ENCE?
LIKE BOXING OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
HE ....
HE WON. UNBE-LIEV-ABLE
POOH!
YES.
ONCE I WAS ....
... A PROFES-SIONAL BOXER.

[X023]
Friends

NERO, WAKE UP!
THERE'S SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO SEE YOU
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HE WANTS
HE SAYS HE WANTS HIS DISC BACK.
?!
COME HERE!
YOU'VE TAKEN MY DISC
GIVE IT BACK!!
THIEF!!

...!!
WAH!
NERO HAD A NIGHTMARE.
BUM BUM
...
DID YOU FIND YOUR GIFT NERO?
I GOT A NEW FRIEND MR SARUTA
THAT IS NICE...
AND FRIENDS?
NOT YET.

...TALK ABOUT ZERO ONE
ALL THE OTHER GAME CENTERS SEEM TO ONLY ...
REALLY ...?
AH THERE THEY ARE.
THOSE ARE MY TEAM MEMBERS FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP
I KNOW THEM THROUGH THE INTERNET.
NICE TO GET TO KNOW YOU.
DOESN'T SEEM TO ME LIKE THIS.
WE ALL ALREADY KNOW EACH OTHER FROM THE SCREEN

EMPLOYEES ONLY
DAMN IT!!
HELLO.
THANKS
TOMORROW I WANT TO HAVE THIS MONTH'S FEE.
BIIIP
DON'T BE SO LAZY!!
IF YOU LACK MONEY THEN GO LOOK FOR A SECOND JOB
WHERE'S THE OTHER GUY?
HI.
!!
EMPLOYEES ONLY

IMPACT-2X
HMM ...
I'VE NEVER SEEN CUSTOMERS HERE
AH YEA
THEN YOU ARE ..
ALONE HERE

NO.
NOT EVEN ONE.
AH..
THANK YOU
HAVE YOU FOUND SIX MORE PLAYERS?

I SEE.

REAL BLACK COFFEE
I WILL DO IT.
TRUST ME.
OKAY.
I GOT AN IDEA.
JUST LET ME PLAY.
I WON LAST TIME.
I DON'T HAVE TO PAY.
KACHAN KACHAN
AH YEA ...
TRUE.
JUST WAIT.
I WILL FIND OUR TEAM MEMBERS.
UUUUUU

*LUCKY SHASHAMEN / SOUKA RAIJIROH / SHINJYUKU NINJA / NIPPONG SHACHOSAN / CONDE KOMANOSKE / ONIZUKA TUYOSI

...A CHALLENGER.
WE'VE ALREADY GOT ...
AH!
LET'S FINISH HIM OFF.
THAT'S OFFENSIVE
AND EVEN D-LEVEL..
WHAT IS HE THINKING?
.... ALONE ...?
... WPOSSIBLE!
HEY, THIS GUY IS...
MAXIMUM BATTLE
START
MBZ

HOW ABOUT A BET...!
HEY, GUYS.

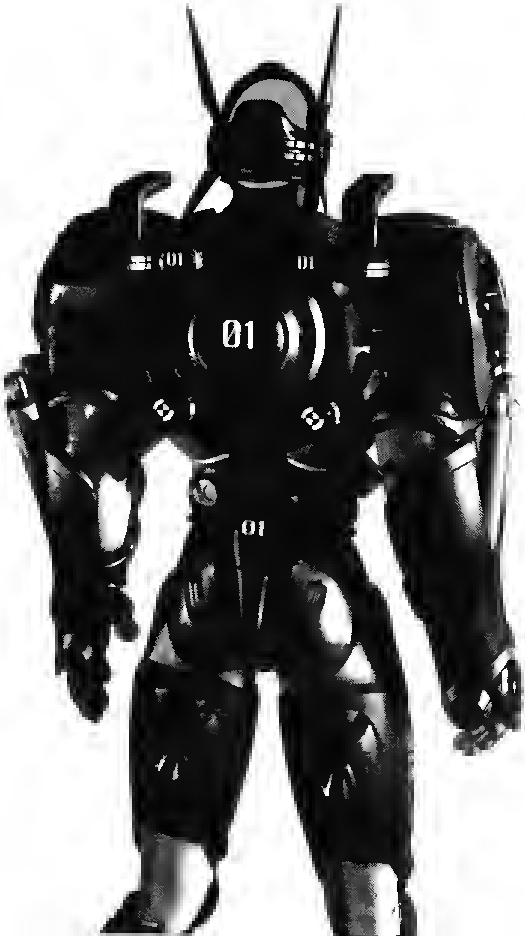
IF I WIN AGAINST ALL OF YOU...
..YOU WILL COME OVER TO THE GAME CENTRE I AM PLAYING FOR. I NEED 6 OF YOU.
OH... BEFORE I FORGET IT...
THIS IS MY SECOND GAME
OKAY IF YOU WIN AGAINST ALL OF US.
COOL.
IT'S A DEAL.

OVER THERE!
WHERE?
WHERE DID HE GO?
!!
WHICH SIDE? WHICH SIDE?
HE'S RUNNING AWAY!
FOLLOW HIM!
WHERE ?? WHERE ??
HEY!
ARGH!
I GOT HIM.
STOCK

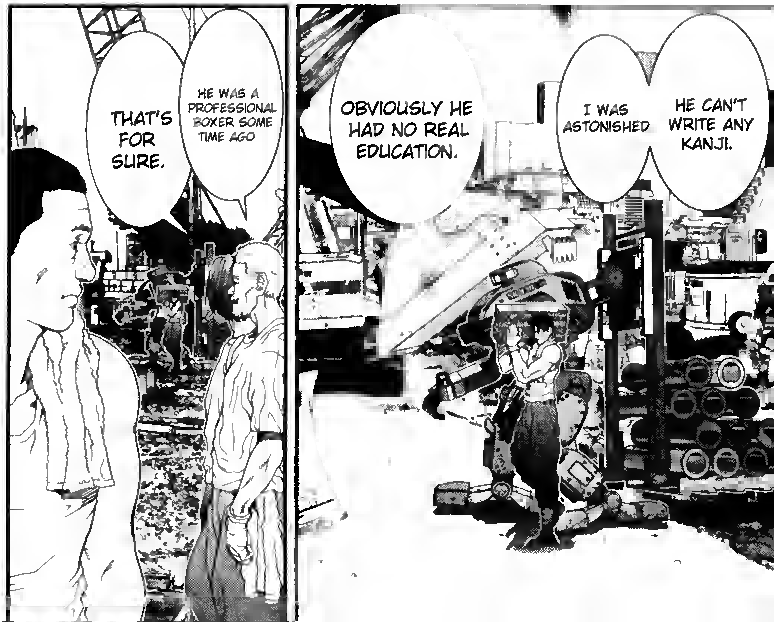
HAA! HAA!
THE GAME'S STILL RUNNING.
HE IS STILL ALIVE
AND SEVEN!
WHAM

...
PSSH
TUM-PUM-PUM
TUM-PUM-PUM
TUM-PUM-PUM
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
WHAT HE SAID BEFORE?
NO WAY.
BEFORE WE TALK ABOUT THAT... WE'RE TOO WEAK.
WE SHOULD FORGET ABOUT THE CHAMPIONSHIP.
I'M GOOD!!
I'M AWESOME!
I'M A GENIUS!
I'M USED TO BEATING THE SHIT OUT OF A BUNCH OF PEOPLE AT ONCE
I GUESS THIS GAME IS REALLY AWESOME
SOMETIMES...

[X024]
CHALLENGE



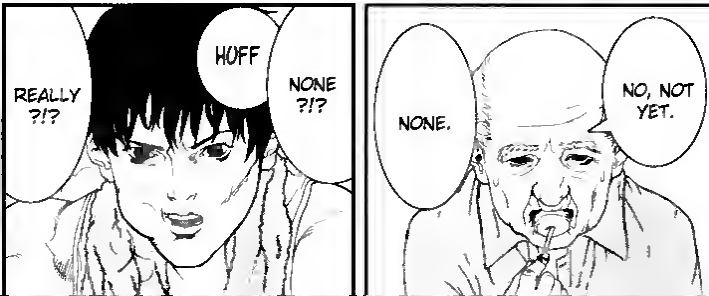
HE'S BEEN IN A YOUTH PRISON.
THAT'S HIS NAME.
RIKIYA HIJIKATA.


THAT'S FOR SURE.
HE WAS A PROFESSIONAL BOXER SOME TIME AGO
OBVIOUSLY HE HAD NO REAL EDUCATION.
I WAS ASTONISHED
HE CAN'T WRITE ANY KANJI.

COME ON.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JUST DINNER, NOTHING ELSE?
IM JUST TESTING YOU..
..... YOU THOUGHT I WANTED TO SLEEP WITH YOU? IDIOT.
BAM
WHAT? PROBLEMS?
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
SPIN
THANKS
YOU WANNA GO SOMEWHERE TOGETHER?
OH.. I..
I AM GAY.
RATHER GIVE ME CASH.

EMPLOYEES ONLY
I BROUGHT US.. SOMETHING TO EAT.
HI OLD MAN.
TAP TAP

HAVE THEY BEEN HERE ALREADY?
SEVEN GUYS I HIRED..
HUFF
THESE ... OH HOT..


REALLY ?!?
HUFF
NONE ?!?
NONE.
NO, NOT YET.

DAMNED SHIT!
THOSE ASSHOLES ARE BREAKING THEIR PROMISE
PULP PULP
DAMN IT!
THE PRIZE MONEY WILL BE MINE AT LEAST.
... I'LL FIGHT BY MYSELF.
IF NO ONE ELSE COMES ....
...
... AH SCREW IT.

HELLO.
I AM ONE OF THOSE....
.. WHO LOST THAT GAME AGAINST YOU.
I DON'T KNOW IF THE OTHERS WILL SHOW UP.

IS HE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE?
A MDZ PLAYER.
IS ALSO
HE..
..
WHO'S THE KID?
IT'S NICE THAT YOU'RE HERE.
OKAY, FINE.
A KID...?
GUESS I HAVE TO GET GOING ONE MORE TIME.
OF SEVEN...
JUST ONE...
... ALL ALONE ANYWAYS
I'LL DEAL WITH IT..

NO DRUG
WHAT?
ONE MOMENT PLEASE!!

DID YOU JUST COME OUT OF THE MBZ?
DIDN'T YOU?
...
...
I WANT TO PLAY INSIDE THERE.
IF I WIN .....
....WILL YOU GO ON A DATE WITH ME?
...
OKAY.
THEN PLEASE ...
DON'T LEAVE.
...

YOU AND THAT GUY...
YOU'RE SURPRISING ME ALL THE TIME.
WOW
IMPRESSIVE
YES. THIS IS HIS THIRD TIME.
A C-LEVEL? B-LEVEL? PERHAPS A-LEVEL?
I'M CURIOUS WHO WILL ENTER?
I'LL WAIT.
THIS TIME, I WON'T ISSUE A CHALLENGE.
...

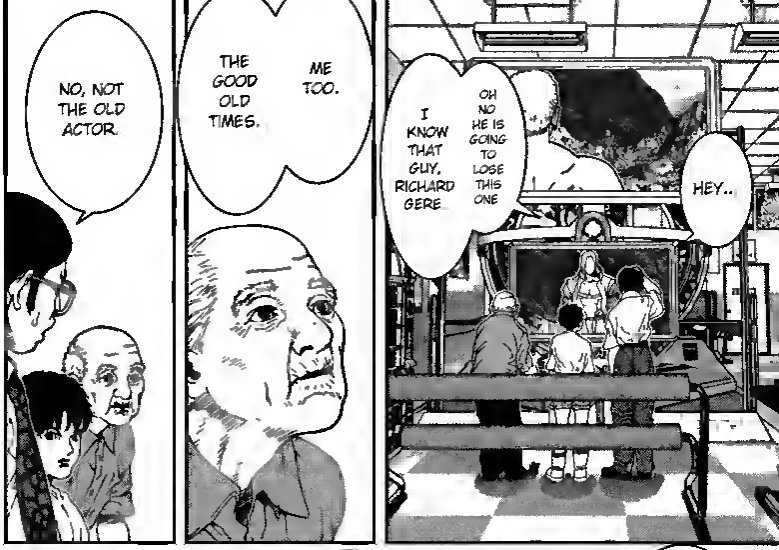
THE CHALLENGER
RANK
C
RICHARD GERE
maximum battle zone
AWESOME!!
COME ON!!
A C-LEVEL!!
C-LEVEL!!!
A C-LEVEL? IMPOSSIBLE!!

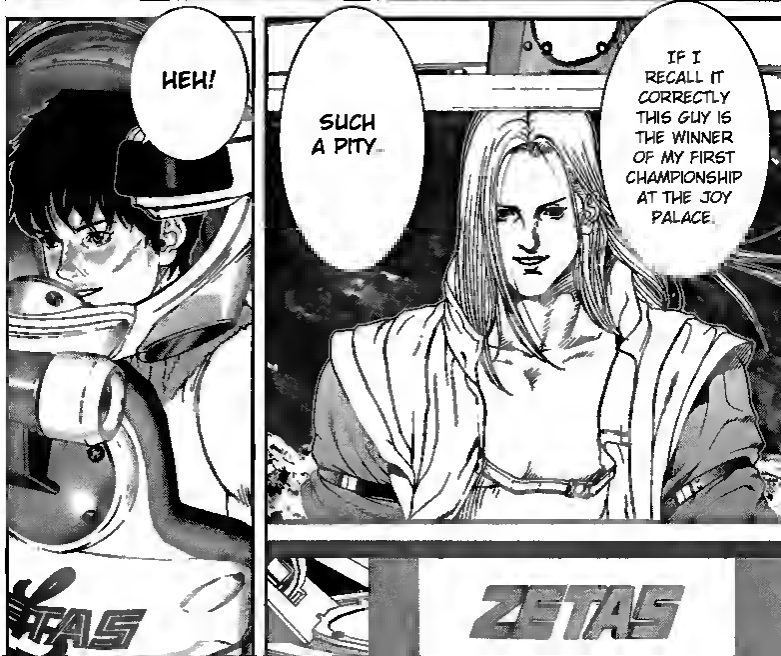
BATTLE START
START THE FIGHT!
I'LL CRUSH YOU.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR NAME...
UUUAAAA

SHUUUUU
CAN WE TALK FOR A MOMENT?
!!
AH IT'S YOU.
THE GUY WHO WANTS TO ...
GATHER A TEAM ...

IF YOU CAN DEFEAT ME.
I'LL JOIN YOU.
OF COURSE.

[X025]
A VETERAN


HEY..
OH NO HE IS GOING TO LOSE THIS ONE
I KNOW THAT GUY, RICHARD GERE.
ME TOO.
THE GOOD OLD TIMES.
NO, NOT THE OLD ACTOR.

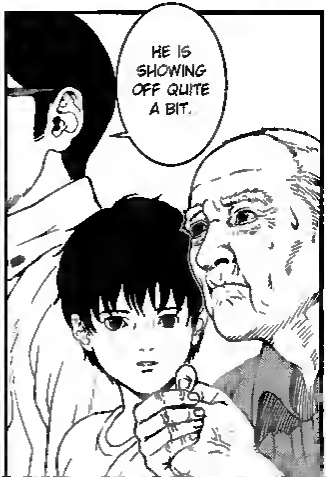

IF I RECALL IT CORRECTLY THIS GUY IS THE WINNER OF MY FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE JOY PALACE.
SUCH A PITY.
HEH!
ZETAS

... I WILL JOIN YOU.
NO WORRIES IF I LOSE...
DON'T DO IT LIKE THE OTHERS
KEEP YOUR PROMISE

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.
HA HA HA!

I AM GOING TO WIN.
THEN IT'S A DEAL.

I'M WISHING FOR IT.
I HOPE THIS MAN WINS.


HE IS SHOWING OFF QUITE A BIT.

BRRR
THIS GUY IS DIFFERENT ...
... THAN MY OTHER OPPONENTS.

DON'T THINK. JUST DO IT.
DASH
SHUU
BEM
THUD
!?

SHUM
UNGH!!
!?
SOOO

JUST LIKE A SAND BAG..
SBAMM
AGH!
BAM
SHUM
TAKE THIS.
URK!
SOCK
UNIM-PORTANT.
THUD
HAH! HAH!
JESUS ...
YOU WON'T GET AWAY.

OH MAN.
UN-BELIEV-ABLE.... INGE-NIOUS...!
HE...
HE COULD WIN.
AAAH!!

YAAAAAAAAH

AAAH!!
YAAAAAAAH
FRRRRRRRRR
HAA!
IMPRESS-ING...!
HONESTLY ...!
HAA!

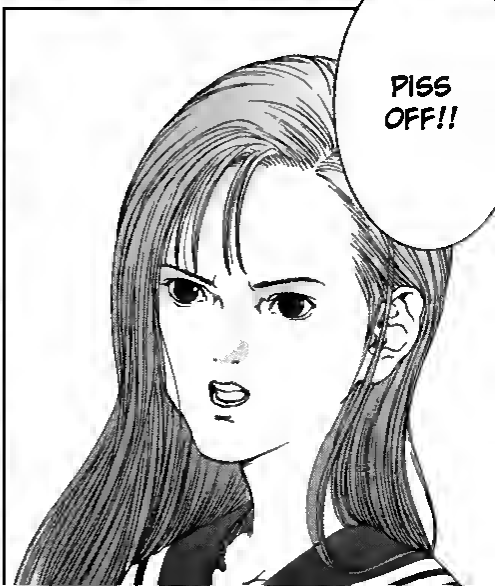
PLEASE KEEP DISTANCE
UGH!
MORON!
DON'T SLEEP!
ATTACKS ARE NOT ALLOWED IF THE OPPONENT IS NOT MOVING FOR MORE THEN 3 SECONDS.
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
NEXT TIME I WILL GRAB AN A-LEVEL.
PUAH!
THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A C-LEVEL?
TODAY MOST LIKELY I WON'T GET THE GIRL.
SHIT!

DO YOU OWN ONE?
WHAT AVATAR ARE YOU USING?

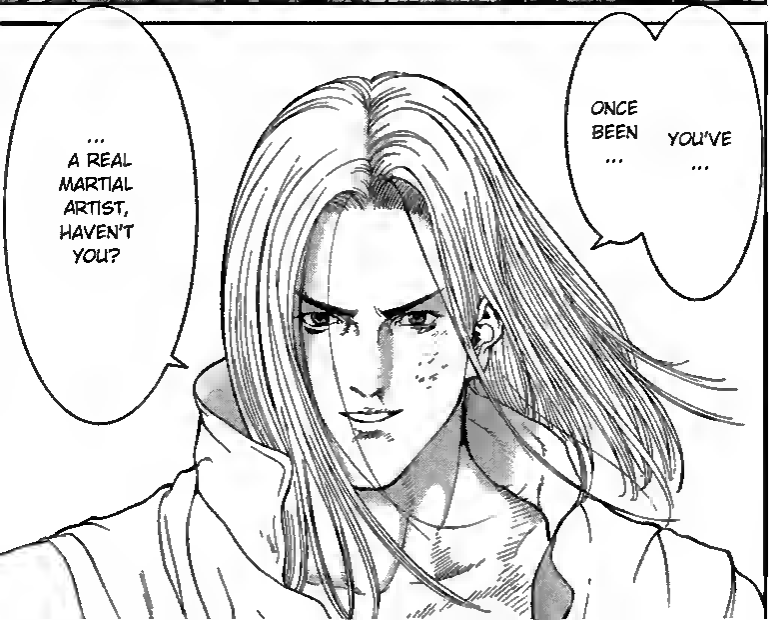
DO YOU WANT TO PLAY MBZ WITH ME?
DO YOU LIKE THAT?

HUH?
PISS OFF.

WHAT A BITCH!


PISS OFF!!

LET'S FINISH THIS!!
START THE FIGHT!!


ONCE YOU'VE BEEN ...
...
... A REAL MARTIAL ARTIST, HAVEN'T YOU?

...
NOTHING
SO IT'S TRUE.
HA HA HA HA HA!
THAT'S WHY.

OKAY
LET'S START.

...

Zero One volume 2 chapter 26

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[X026]
Defeat

THIS TIME HE MUST GET IN RANGE!!
TA
THROUGH HIS EXPERIENCE AS A BOXER.
ALL HIS FIGHTS...
SO HE WON...
RUN AWAY UNTILL THE TIME IS OVER!

!?
TONK
TONK
TONK
TONK
TONK
TONK
HA HA HA HA!
GUARD

RUN AWAY! DOESN'T MATTER WHERE! AS FAST AS YOU CAN!
DAMN IT! WHAT'S GOING ON?
HE'S GUARDING HIMSELF.
PUSH HIM!! GRAB THE HANDLE!!
LIKE ...
THIS?
GRA
BAM

BROOO
SWAM
WAMWAM
!?

AAHRRR!!

BRRRRR
GHURRR!!
SPRAM

FORGET IT.
IS THAT BOXING?
YOUR CLOSE COMBAT ... ...IS REALLY GOOD.
YOU'LL NEVER GET THE PRIZE MONEY.
YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE THIS GAME.
FORGET IT!
... GETTING THE PRIZE MONEY OF THE CHAMPION-SHIP?
DO YOU PLAN ON...
SHUT UP!
FIGHT

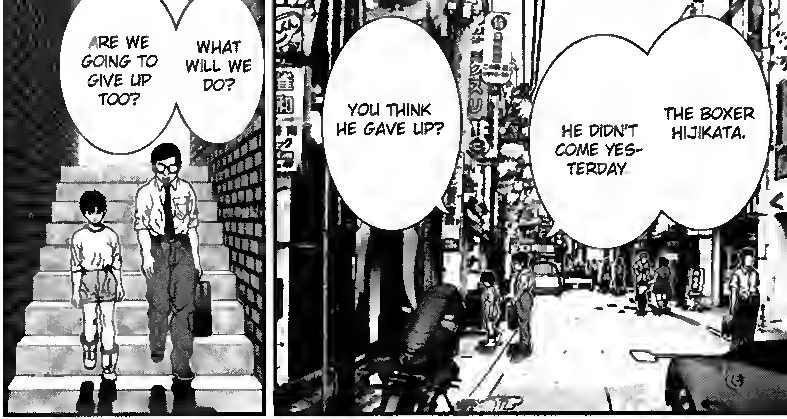
GWAAH!!
I WON'T LOSE!!
KRAK
UNGH!!
BAM

YOU HAVE NO CHANCE ANYMORE
THE ARM...THE LEG...
FORGET IT.
NO.
OH..
FOR SHOOTING ENERGY BOMBS YOU HAVE TO PRESS THE BUTTON ..
IMMOBILE.
DAMAGED PARTS WILL ALMOST BE ...
ドドド

UAAAAAH!!
YOU NEED PRACTICE..
WHAP
SHOOM

ｽﾀｽﾀｯ

GIVE UP.
I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU.
THUM
IMPACT-2K


ARE WE GOING TO GIVE UP TOO?
WHAT WILL WE DO?
YOU THINK HE GAVE UP?
HE DIDN'T COME YESTERDAY
THE BOXER HIJIKATA.

... AGAINST THIS RICHARD.
... I WILL FIGHT...
THE NEXT TIME...
01[ZERO ONE]
End of Volume 2

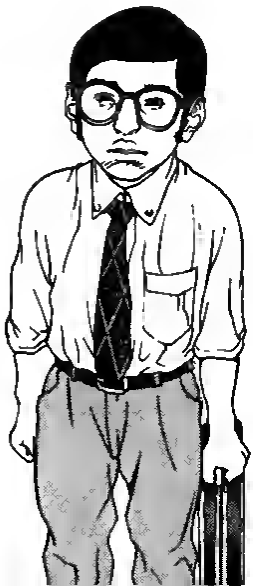
Disclaimer

Yes another one, sigh.. We have reached the end of volume 2 of Zero-One and hopefully you have all enjoyed the ride. Once again let us thank the staff that contributed to make the releases possible. It seems I'm at the end of the road, too many people say that I'm not fit to be a writer. Even my sensei (a female teacher - you got to love it xD) says so, she complained that my handwriting sucks so bad that she doesn't understand anything. (She didn't say that in my wet dream.. *sniff*)

This time I want to celebrate the leechers that makes the manga community possible, without you all the manga community would stop dead in it tracks!!!

Well, anyway I'm too lazy to do a poem for this disclaimer. But I will do my best for the next time

-hirad



NB: This disclaimer have been approved by Iakay. Please direct any comments you might have to him (doesn't really matter what comments you have, just bother him!!).

Today I was watching a movie when it hit me. Most of the babes in hollywood movies are quite past their prime age (yes, I am admitting it, I'm a jiji). I wish for fresh blood, more young hot babes. Of course u can say I've got a mortality complex, which I indeed have... who doesn't wish to to fly to mars ... to bathe in it's red sand...

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